(a) preparing an initial mixture comprising at least one glass matrix-forming material containing a biologically active agent selected from the group consisting [essentially] of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, [or] a pharmaceutically effective substance, [selected from the group comprising] and a diagnostic reagent[s, antibodies and antigens], and [a solvent therefor] solvent(s) for the glass matrix-forming material;

E1 cont'd (b) evaporating a [proportion] portion of the solvent(s) from the mixture to obtain a syrup;

(c) boiling the syrup under less than atmospheric pressure to produce foaming of the syrup; and

(d) continuing step (c) until the boiling results in the formation of a solid foam and produces a foamed glass matrix containing the biologically active agent.

E2 17. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [14] 1, wherein the evaporation in step (b) occurs at an external temperature of about 25°C to 45°C.

Cancel claim 49 without prejudice.

Please change the dependency of claims 54, 55, 57, and 81 from claim 49 to claim 62.

Amend claims 61, 62 and 65 as follows:

61. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 59, wherein the solvent with which the FGM is contacted is an aqueous buffer.

E3 cont'd 62. (Amended four times) A method for preserving a biologically active agent within a foamed glass matrix (FGM) comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing an initial mixture comprising at least one glass matrix-forming material containing a biologically active agent to be preserved selected from the group consisting of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, a pharmaceutically effective substance and a diagnostic reagent and [a solvent therefor] solvent(s) for the glass matrix-forming material;

(b) evaporating a [proportion] portion of the solvent(s) from the mixture to obtain a syrup;

(c) boiling the syrup under less than atmospheric pressure to produce foaming of the syrup; and

E3 cancel

(d) continuing step (c) until the boiling results in the formation of a solid foam and produces a foamed glass matrix containing the biologically active agent.

65. (Amended four times) A method for producing a single dose of a biologically active agent, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing an initial mixture comprising at least one glass matrix-forming material containing a biologically active agent selected from the group consisting of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, a pharmaceutically effective substance and a diagnostic reagent and [a solvent therefor] solvent(s) for the glass matrix-forming material;

E4

(b) evaporating a [proportion] portion of the solvent(s) from the mixture to obtain a syrup;

(c) boiling the syrup under less than atmospheric pressure to produce foaming of the syrup; and

(d) continuing step (c) until the boiling results in the formation of a solid foam and produces a foamed glass matrix containing the biologically active agent.

Cancel claim 70 and rewrite it as new claim 98.

98. (New, rewritten claim 70) A method for dissolving a foamed glass matrix which incorporates a biologically active agent selected from the group consisting of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, a pharmaceutically effective substance and a diagnostic reagent comprising contacting the foamed glass matrix with sufficient solvent(s) to dissolve the foamed glass matrix.

E5

Amend claims 71, 78, 83, 91, 94 and 97 as follows:

71. (Amended four times) A foamed glass matrix (FGM) containing a biologically active agent obtained by the method of claim 1.

E6

78. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising reducing residual moisture from the FGM formed in step [(c)] (d).

E7

83. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 62, further comprising reducing residual moisture from the FGM formed in step [c)] (d).

91. (Thrice Amended) A method for producing foamed glass matrices (FGMs) containing a biologically active agent, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing an initial mixture comprising at least one glass matrix-forming carbohydrate, a biologically active agent selected from the group consisting of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, a pharmaceutically effective substance and a diagnostic reagent, [a solvent therefor] solvents for the carbohydrate and biologically active agent and at least one foam-promoting additive which is a volatile salt or a salt that decomposes at less than atmospheric pressure to give a gaseous product;

(b) evaporating a [proportion] portion of the solvents from the mixture to obtain a syrup;

(c) boiling the syrup under less than atmospheric pressure to produce foaming of the syrup; and

(d) continuing step (c) until the boiling results in the formation of a solid foam and produces a foamed glass matrix containing the biologically active agent.

94. (Thrice Amended) A method for producing foamed glass matrices (FGMs) containing a biologically active agent, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing an initial mixture comprising at least one glass matrix-forming carbohydrate, carbohydrate alcohol or carbohydrate derivative, a biologically active agent selected from the group consisting of a therapeutic agent, a prophylactic agent, a pharmaceutically effective substance and a diagnostic reagent, an aqueous solvent therefor, and a foam-promoting additive which is a volatile organic solvent;

(b) evaporating a [proportion] portion of the aqueous and organic solvents from the mixture to obtain a syrup;